

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN**

Re: Amendment of Part 101 of the Commission's Rules to Modify Antenna Requirements for the 10.7-11.7 GHz Band; Notice of Proposed Rulemaking; WT Docket No. 07-51

While long overdue, I am pleased that we finally are adopting this Notice to consider the use of smaller antennas in the 11 GHz band. Smaller antennas are significantly easier to site on buildings and towers, and, provided that the potential for harmful interference can be appropriately managed, we should always try to encourage their use. This is particularly appropriate since these smaller antennas should make it easier for the last-mile delivery of wireless broadband services to buildings that may currently be difficult or expensive to reach with antennas currently allowed under our rules.

Given the potential benefits of this proceeding, it is unfortunate that it has taken over two and a half years for the Commission to act on the initiating FiberTower Petition for Rulemaking, which was filed on July 14, 2004. If we truly are going to be serious about promoting the deployment of spectrum-based services, and wireless broadband in particular, we must place a higher priority on moving these spectrum policy matters forward. For example, in a speech to the National Spectrum Managers Association in May 2006, I noted that the Commission was long overdue on ruling on a number of important spectrum matters including this very same proceeding:

But my concerns about our spectrum policy making and our wireless broadband efforts are not just limited to high profile proceedings. My staff and I regularly hear from parties who are developing new technologies or are involved in ongoing proceedings, but are unable to move forward due to a lack of guidance from the Commission. Unfortunately, the list is long and probably all too familiar to many in this room. Items like the pending petitions for reconsideration in the ESV proceeding; the FiberTower petition for rulemaking for two-foot antennas in the 11 GHz band; the long standing petition to rechannelize the 18 GHz band; and proposals to adopt a power spectral density-based emission limit, as an alternative to existing standards.¹

I do not necessarily know how these proceedings and waivers should be decided. But I do know that many of them touch on issues like wireless broadband and homeland security. That means they should be dealt with as quickly as possible. Technology in the wireless space moves too fast to be delayed by an unnecessarily long deliberation at the FCC.

¹ Remarks of Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission, before the National Spectrum Managers Association, Spectrum Management 2006, Arlington, Virginia (May 16, 2006).